

# WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD NORTH COAST REGION

## MONTHLY REPORT TO THE BOARD

May 2001

### WATERSHED PROTECTION DIVISION

[Staff contact: John Short]

Staff have been busy processing new permit applications, responding to complaints, and performing many required compliance inspections and permit renewals. The permit renewals are intended to review regulatory language and facility information contained in existing permits and update the permit language when necessary.

Staff inspections are focusing on facilities that may not have received inspections in many years. Staff are finding that significant permit changes are typical when renewing these outdated permits. Time is spent making individual contact with responsible parties and inspecting all aspects of the regulated facility. Staff discuss with the permit holders any outstanding permit violations and control measures that may help protect against future violations.

Staff are anticipating the arrival of hundreds of annual reports that are coming due on July 1, 2001, from industrial storm water permit holders

### Wetland Mitigation Banks Field Trip

[Staff contact: Andrew Jensen]

Regional Water Board Executive Officer and staff participated in an informational field trip to two local wetland mitigation banks, hosted by local Wetland Specialist Larry Stromberg. Staff from the California Department of Fish and Game and the City of Santa Rosa also attended the tours.

Andrew Jensen organized the tours to familiarize other staff members with wetland ecology, wetland mitigation, and the process of wetland mitigation banking. Wetland mitigation banking is the primary tool that Regulatory Agencies use to mitigate for the filling of wetland habitat within the state of California.



(Regional Board staff observe soil pits on Wright Preservation Bank)

The two-wetland mitigation banks that were toured included the Wright Preservation Bank and the Gobbi Bank, both of which are managed by the California Department of Fish and Game through conservation easements. The overall response from staff was very positive.



(Tour of the Gobbi Wetland Mitigation Bank)

## California Toxics Rule

[Staff contact: Terry Dean]

On March 2, 2000, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California. This policy applies to discharges of toxic pollutants into the inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries of California subject to regulation under the state's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7 of the Water Code) and the federal Clean Water Act. The policy was developed in response to federal regulations that require each state to develop standards for toxic pollutants. Specifically, the Policy implements regulations promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in California Toxics Rule (CTR), which established criteria for 126 priority pollutants.

The Regional Water Board staff is requiring, through the issuance of California Water Code section 13267(b) Orders mailed out April 27, 2001, all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permittees, for which this policy applies, to undertake two effluent studies to comply with the policy:

*Priority Pollutant Study.* The objective is to collect data from the effluent and receiving water so that the Regional Water Board staff can make a determination as to whether effluent limits need to be established for any of the 126 Priority Pollutants.

*Dioxin Study.* The objective is to assess the presence and amounts of the dioxin congeners being discharged to Waters of the State, and for the development of a strategy to control these chemicals.

The Regional Water Board staff will give a presentation to recipients of the California Water Code section 13267(b) Orders on what the California Toxics Rule is and how it affects NPDES permittees in Santa Rosa on June 6 and in Eureka on June 7.

### Judge Rules Irrigation Project Violated Federal Law, Klamath Basin

[Staff contact: Tom Dunbar]

On April 4, 2001, a federal judge ruled that the federal agency operating the Klamath Basin primary irrigation project deliberately violated the Endangered Species Act last year by ignoring the needs of threatened salmon. Until the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BUREC) develops a legal plan of operation, U.S. District Judge Sandra Brown Armstrong in Oakland barred the agency from supplying water to Klamath Basin farmers whenever flows to the Klamath River

drop below levels recommended by the best available science.

The Endangered Species Act requires the BUREC to provide sufficient in-stream flows for the survival of endangered suckerfish in Upper Klamath Lake and threatened Coho salmon in the Klamath River.

Judge Armstrong wrote that the BUREC violated the Endangered Species Act by implementing its operations plan for 2000 and operating the Klamath Project without assessing the impacts on Coho salmon or consulting with the National Marine Fisheries Service.

On May 1, 2001, citing treaty obligations to two tribes and the Endangered Species Act's protection of endangered fish, Judge Ann L. Aiken denied a request by farmers in the Klamath Basin for an injunction restoring irrigation flows. She said the Klamath Water Users Association and others were unlikely to prevail in their lawsuit against the BUREC, which controls the major irrigation project in the Klamath Basin.

The lawsuit sought to reverse the BUREC decision April 7, 2001, to allocate nearly all water in the Klamath Project to endangered sucker fish in Upper Klamath Lake, the project's primary reservoir, and to threatened Coho salmon in the Klamath River, which drains the basin.

The judge wrote that while it is clear that the farmers face severe economic hardship, the threat to the survival of the fish is greater.

## WATERSHED MANAGEMENT DIVISION

### Meet the Basin Planning Unit

[Staff contact: David Evans]

The Basin Planning Unit is responsible for conducting the Triennial Review of the Basin Water Quality Control Plan and for completing Basin Plan Amendments as identified during the review process. Several staff also work under contract with the Sonoma County Water Agency for the evaluation of the Russian River basin. The unit is also responsible for administration of the Proposition 13 funds (Costa-Machado Water Act of 2000) to support safe drinking, water quality, flood protection and water reliability projects throughout the North Coast Region. David Evans supervises this unit.

Lauren Clyde is the lead staff person for the 2001-2004 Triennial Review of the Regional Water Board's Basin Plan. Lauren is also the contract manager for the Gualala River Watershed Council's 319(h) grant for watershed restoration. Lauren has also recently assisted with an assessment of instream conditions in

Mendocino Coast watersheds for use by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in developing total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).

Carrie Lukacic and Bernadette Reed are working to develop a Basin Plan Amendment for the control of sediment. It is designed to prevent adverse impacts from sediment on beneficial uses of waters of the State in the North Coast Region. Bernadette is also assisting with the Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA) contract.



(From left: Bernadette Reed, Lauren Clyde, David Evans, Gail Seymour, Rebecca Van Asdlan, Reg Cullen, and Carrie Lukacic)

Reg Cullen works with simulation models that predict water temperature and water quality constituents in streams and reservoirs, focusing on the Russian and Eel rivers. This summer Reg will lead the MtBE sampling effort in Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino.

Rebecca Van Asdlan is working under the SCWA contract on the Russian River Sediment Basin Plan Amendment. This amendment will focus on numeric instream targets, turbidity and suspended sediment targets or standards, an implementation plan designed to meet targets or standards, and a monitoring plan. In addition, Rebecca is the staff lead on management of the SCWA contract and is working on another Basin Plan Amendment to update beneficial uses. Rebecca is also involved in the Garcia River Sediment TMDL and Basin Plan Amendment.

Gail Seymour is lead person for the Proposition 13 Grant Program. She works directly with the Region's stakeholders in developing and submitting grant proposals for nonpoint source pollution reduction and watershed protection/enhancement projects. In addition, Gail oversees the Region's Proposition 13 project evaluation team and participates in the State Water Board's Watershed Management Initiative Committee that evaluates statewide Proposition 13 project proposals.

## **Proposition 13 and 319(h)/205(j) Grant Project Priorities Workshops**

[Staff contact: Gail Seymour]

Three grant project priorities workshops were conducted in Yreka (April 3), Eureka (April 5), and Santa Rosa (April 6) with watershed groups, state, federal and local agencies, nonprofit organizations, and other stakeholders. Collectively, there were 90 people in attendance.

This effort was a result of the State Water Resources Control Board and the Regional Water Board's desire to bring our stakeholders into the Proposition 13 and sections 319(h) and 205(j) of the federal Clean Water Act grant processes.

The workshops' purpose was to set priorities for watersheds in the North Coast Region by asking stakeholders to share their local watershed protection and nonpoint source pollution reduction priorities. Attendees and staff believed that these three days of collaborative discussion confirmed that the Regional Water Board and regional stakeholders are continuing to work in partnership to protect and enhance our watersheds.

Following the workshops, staff integrated the various local priorities and developed lists of targeted projects that were submitted to the SWRCB on April 16. These lists will be published and used in evaluating future grant proposals.

## **Gualala River**

[Staff contact: Bryan McFadin]

Staff is conducting a sediment source analysis in the Gualala River watershed in order to gather information for development of the Gualala River Sediment TMDL.

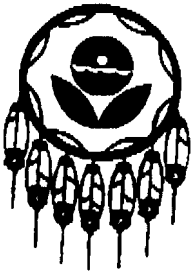
Information is being gathered on the types of roads, level of road use, and sediment sources. For each sediment source (i.e., gully, landslide, and earthflow), that is entering a watercourse, staff is gathering information on the volume of sediment delivered, the age of the sediment source, and the cause of the erosion.

During the month of April staff have been involved in intense training in order to familiarize themselves with techniques and establish a frame of reference.



## Coyote Valley Tribal Environmental Protection Agency Environmental Program

[Staff contact: Gail Seymour]



The summer of 2000 presented a special opportunity for Regional Water Board staff to work in partnership with the Coyote Valley's Tribal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Youth Program. The staff needed a sampling site on the West Fork Russian River (Ukiah) for a water quality monitoring program. Mendocino County Water Agency Director Dennis Slota introduced Regional Water Board staff Peter Otis and Gail Seymour to the Tribal EPA Youth Program staff Mary Norbert Korte and Jeff Harris.



(Peter Otis teaching students how to use, calibrate and maintain a datalogger)

The Coyote Valley Tribal EPA Youth Program employs Coyote Valley youth aged 14-21. This program builds leadership and employment skills, environmental science skills, and demonstrates environmental projects that serve the Tribe's needs. Projects include, a community recycling program, erosion control along Forsythe Creek and vernal wetlands utilizing revegetation and trail maintenance techniques, monitoring of nonpoint source pollution; and eradication of noxious vegetation (*Arundo donax*).

The Coyote Valley Tribal Council graciously approved access to a site on the West Fork Russian River located on Tribal lands.

The highlight of this collaboration was working side-by-side with the young environmental workers and their program leaders. Peter Otis, Regional Monitoring Coordinator, taught the workers how to calibrate, maintain and deploy a datalogger in the river. They learned sampling protocol and how to download water quality data into spreadsheets. Throughout the summer, the tribal youth workers collected water temperature, pH, specific conductivity, and dissolved oxygen data that was reported to the Regional Water Board.

Gail Seymour assisted in the training and prepared training materials used to teach basic stream ecology.



(Timmy Ramos deploying datalogger in the Russian River)

A special thank you goes to The Coyote Valley Tribal Council, Coyote Valley Tribal EPA, Coordinator Mary Norbert Korte, Environmental Teacher Jeff Harris, Mendocino County Water Agency Director Dennis Slota, Coyote Valley Tribe – EPA Youth Program workers: Zim Crabtree, Israel Pulawa, Hiram Campbell, Carly Rabano, Nick Campbell, Timmy Ramos, Darrell Ford, Tony Ramos, and Darren Ford.



(Zim Crabtree and Jeff Harris)

*"We seek to plan environmental projects that will inform and inspire all Tribal members; that are compatible with traditional Tribal mores; that will bring Tribal Youth to full flower of their potential."*



- Coyote Valley  
Band of Pomo  
Indians Tribal  
Council

## Klamath River Update

[Staff contact: David Leland]

Staff in the TMDL unit are coordinating with Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ), PacifiCorp (a hydroelectric power producer with facilities on the Klamath River) and the Klamath Tribes on temperature and water quality monitoring programs on the mainstem Klamath for this summer season. The unit is also coordinating with ODEQ on a similar program for the Lost River drainage.

The comment period on PacifiCorp's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing First Stage Consultation step closed at the end of March.

Staff's comments were incorporated into comments submitted by the 401 certification group in the Division of Water Rights, who have the lead on hydroelectric power facility relicensing for the State Water Board and Regional Water Boards.

### *CLEANUPS AND SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION*

#### **Southern Pacific Transportation Company**

[Staff contact: Lisa Bernard]

The Southern Pacific Transportation Company (SPTCo) site occupies approximately 30 acres in a commercial and industrial area of the Eureka Waterfront.



(SPTCo Site Overlooks the New Boat Basin, Eureka)

The site, frequently referred to as the balloon track, was a former railroad switching, maintenance, and freight yard from the late 1800s until the mid-1980s. Operations at the former railroad yard included fueling and repair of locomotives and railroad cars.

Past spills and disposal activities at the SPTCo site have resulted in the release of several contaminants to the environment including Bunker C oil, diesel, motor oil, polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PNAs), arsenic, copper, lead, zinc, and chlorinated volatile organic compounds.

The February 2001 issue of the Monthly Report to the Board indicated that the third draft Feasibility Study and Remedial Action Plan (draft FS/RAP) for the SPTCo site would be submitted for review by March 1, 2001. However, Regional Water Board staff met with Union Pacific on February 9, 2001, and discussed the difficulties of implementing appropriate final remedial actions without having a specific site development plan.

Regional Water Board staff developed Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2001-25 to direct remaining site activities. The Order requires several tasks including: 1) additional waste characterization of site soil; 2) interim remedial actions to address removal of soil impacted with hazardous waste concentrations of contamination and other high priority concerns; 3) coordination of final remedial actions with any future site development; and, 4) regular monitoring of surface water runoff and groundwater conditions. A copy of the Order can be accessed on our web site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1>.

Additional soil characterization required under Order R1-2001-25 is anticipated to occur early this summer. The findings from the soil characterization work will be used to develop appropriate cleanup criteria. Order R1-2001-25 requires submittal of the interim remedial action plan by September 15, 2001.

#### **North Coast Sawmills Assessments/Investigation**

[Staff contact: Tuck Vath]

Over the past 12 months, staff have been investigating surface and groundwater contamination problems at sawmills (both active and closed) in the North Coast Region. These investigations have revealed water quality problems associated with log deck runoff, wood treatment chemical use, and equipment fueling and maintenance. These investigations have led to the request for workplans to determine the extent of soil and groundwater contamination.

In addition, staff is reviewing existing National Pollutant Discharge Eliminate System (NPDES) General Storm Water Permits that pertain to sawmills to determine if water quality would be better protected by issuing individual NPDES Permits or Waste Discharge Requirements for the individual sawmills. As more sawmills are evaluated, we anticipate this resource expenditure will increase.

## **Progress in Groundwater Remediation at Coast Wood Preserving, Ukiah**

[Staff contact: Janice Goebel]

Coast Wood Preserving (CWP) is an active wood treatment facility located on the south end of Ukiah. CWP began operations in the early 1970s. Soil underlying the site is contaminated with copper, chromium and arsenic. Groundwater is predominantly contaminated with hexavalent chromium. CWP is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Superfund site, and the Regional Water board and the Department of Toxic Substances Control coordinate cleanup oversight at the facility. The site is currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 99-45 and Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 99-45 adopted by the Regional Water Board on July 21, 1999.

CWP has been pumping and treating contaminated groundwater for over ten years. In the summer of 1999, CWP proposed a full-scale in-situ (in-place) chromium reduction groundwater remedy using calcium polysulfide, water and molasses. The first injections of calcium polysulfide commenced in September of 1999.

The results of the in-situ chromium reduction cleanup remedy after one year indicate that levels of chromium have been significantly reduced. The highest concentration of chromium in groundwater now present in groundwater is 1,200 ppb. Additional injections are planned this summer. Ongoing groundwater monitoring continues to evaluate the groundwater cleanup remedy. Sampling for pH, dissolved calcium, dissolved sulfate, dissolved manganese (all byproducts of calcium polysulfate) as well as chromium, copper and arsenic is being conducted.

## **West College Avenue /Clover Drive PCE Groundwater Contamination, Claims Filed, Santa Rosa**

[Staff contact: Mark Bartson]

Many residents of the West College Avenue/Clover Drive neighborhood have filed claims with the State Controller's office as a result of the groundwater contamination with tetrachloroethylene in the area. There have been over 100 claims filed with the State Controller. Claims have also been filed with both the City of Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma. Regional Water Board staff will work with the State Controller's office and our attorneys to properly respond to these claims.

## **Spill from Groundwater Treatment System, 99 Frances Street, Santa Rosa**

[Staff contact: Mark Bartson]

Staff responded to a spill related to the 99 Frances Street (former West Coast Metals). The responsible party is the Union Pacific Railroad. Contaminated water is extracted from 14 wells, then treated and discharged. The primary contaminant at this site is trichloroethylene (TCE).

In late March, a discharge line from one of the extraction wells located in a residential area broke at the well head. The well continued to pump resulting in a discharge of about 7 gallons per minute into the street and into a nearby storm drain. This discharge was not immediately detected and continued for approximately 24 hours before the well was shut down. The total discharge was estimated at 8,500 to 10,000 gallons. This extraction well has historically contained approximately 150 ppb of TCE and lower levels of four other related compounds.

The responsible party has been directed to evaluate the cause of the problem and take steps to prevent it from recurring.

## ***TIMBER HARVEST DIVISION***

### **Timber Harvest Activities**

[Staff contact: Frank Reichmuth]

Staff recently attended a Board of Forestry meeting where six research scientists made presentations to the Board of Forestry regarding methods of cumulative watershed effects analysis. The Board of Forestry is gathering information to modify the existing process to better protect watersheds that support threatened and endangered salmonid species. Staff is looking forward to future Board of Forestry meetings that specifically address cumulative watershed effects analysis.

### **Pacific Lumber Company**

[Staff contact: Frank Reichmuth]

Pacific Lumber Company filed a petition with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review a Monitoring and Reporting program issued by staff for a timber harvest plan on the South Fork of the Elk River. The State board will hear arguments regarding a stay of the Monitoring and Reporting program on May 17, 2001.



# EXECUTIVE OFFICER MEETING

The Russian River Watershed Council's Budget Committee, Coordinator, and Mendocino County Supervisor Richard Shoemaker, and several other council members met with the Regional Water Board Executive Officer Lee Michlin and the Watershed Management Division Chief Dr. Ranjit Gill to discuss possible sources of future funding within the California Environmental Protection Agency/State Water Resources Control Board/and the Regional Water Board's system. All parties agreed to continue to discuss this funding issue, recognizing that the lead state agency is the Resources Agency.

## ADMINISTRATIVE CIVIL LIABILITY COMPLAINTS/ ORDERS

There were no Administrative Civil Liability Complaints issued during the month of April.

## CALIFORNIA WATER CODE SECTION 13267 LETTER ORDERS

There were 40 California Water Code section 13267(b) Orders issued during the month of April.

### **Lolonis Clean Water Act section 13267(b) Order, Redwood Valley**

[Staff contact: Andrew Baker]

On April 2, 2001, the Executive Officer issued a Clean Water Act section 13267(b) order to Ulysses Lolonis, owner of Lolonis Vineyard and Winery, in Redwood Valley.

The order requests a work plan for mitigating the adverse impacts that resulted from new vineyard development activity and construction of a large earthen dam and reservoir. The dam is 65 feet high and impounds 250-acre feet of water and took three years to construct. The adverse impacts include discharge of large quantities of earthen material in an unnamed tributary to Salt Hollow Creek and loss of stream flow for fish and wildlife.



(Elmer Dudik measuring sediment in watercourse from vineyard erosion)

The discharge is ongoing, and has been occurring over the last three years. The Department of Fish and Game reports that the unnamed tributary contained habitat for Steelhead Trout and Coho Salmon and that the unnamed tributary, below the dam, is so severely impacted due to sediment and lack of stream flow that it is no longer suitable for salmonids. Salt Hollow Creek is tributary to the Russian River. Both Steelhead Trout and Coho Salmon are listed as threatened under the Federal Endangered Species Act for the Russian River.



(Unnamed Tributary to Salt Hollow Creek Covered with Fine Sediment.)

Staff is coordinating enforcement efforts with the other affected agencies including the Department of Fish and Game, Division of Water Rights (State Water Resources Control Board), Division of Dam Safety (Department of Water Resources), National Marine Fisheries Service and Mendocino County District Attorney. The 13267(b) Order will help fulfill many of the requirements of the other agencies.

On December 12, 2000, the Mendocino County District Attorney's office filed a complaint against Lolonis for water pollution under DFG Code Section 5650 and for altering/changing/diverting a stream without notification under DFG Code Section 1603. The Division of Water Rights is investigating possible violations of their water rights permit. Staff notified the Division of Dam Safety in August 2000, after noticing a leak in the dam embankment and again in April 2001, after noticing another leak and small slump on the dam face. The division of Dam Safety is continuing to monitor the safety of the dam.

An Administrative Civil Liability Complaint is possible in the near future.

## SPILLS, COMPLAINTS, AND INSPECTIONS

There were two spills reported on the Sanitary Sewer Overflow and Spill Data Management System since the last report.

### **Cream's Auto Dismantlers Fire Incident**

[Staff contact: Beth Lamb]

On March 10, 2001, firefighters from six neighboring departments responded to a fire at Cream's Auto Dismantlers near the Sonoma County Airport. The fire engulfed about 82 cars. Approximately 130,000 gallons of water and fire retardant foam were used to extinguish the fire. Regional Water Board staff responded to the fire along with the California Department of Fish and Game to evaluate the environmental impacts from wastes discharged during the fire, including the firewater runoff. The facility was in compliance with a storm water program that included a surface water monitoring and reporting program. The site is entirely paved and surrounded with a constructed concrete berm designed to collect all runoff water along the northwest corner of the site.

A water treatment system located in the northwest corner of the site was used to treat the fire runoff water. Analysis of the firewater indicated that elevated concentrations of petroleum hydrocarbons, including gasoline, diesel and motor oil as well as other gasoline additives including benzene and methyl tertiary butyl ether (MtBE) were dissolved in the firewater runoff. After the wastewater was treated at the facilities storm water treatment system, the effluent was discharged to the sanitary sewer under a permit from the Sonoma County Water Agency. During the fire response, about 8,000 gallons of firewater and foam were discharged from the site to the storm sewer. Under the direction of the Regional Water Board staff and the Department of

Fish and Game, this water was contained in the storm drain before it could flow to adjacent Mark West Creek. Cleanup of the storm drain was conducted by the facility's owner and was completed to the satisfaction of the Regional Water Board staff and the Department of Fish and Game within 24 hours of the fire event.

### **Liquid Transfer, LLC Spill, Highway 20 at Mile Post 21.61, Mendocino County**

[Staff contact: Dan Warner]

On February 26, 2001 a Liquid Transfer, LLC tanker truck carrying fuel oil from Evergreen Oil, Inc., crashed on Highway 20 at Mile Post 21.61 spilling approximately 7,000 gallons of fuel oil. A multi-agency response action has been occurring since the date of the spill. Several in-stream dams were constructed to mitigate the spill.

Flushing of the tributary was halted on March 30, 2001 under the direction of the Department of Fish and Game. Tributary waters above Dam No. 3 continued to be contained, collected, and properly disposed of until April 12, 2001.

Free product accumulating in Dam No. 3 continues to be removed using absorbent pads. Beginning on April 12, 2001 Dam No. 3 was set-up as an underflow dam with the outflow flowing to two 55-gallon carbon filters and released back into the tributary.

Surface water samples continue to be collected and analyzed from the affected tributary and James Creek every three days. Analytical results from April 21, 2001, indicate that surface water being collected in Dam No. 3 continues to show elevated levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons as diesel, total petroleum hydrocarbons as motor oil, and methyl tertiary butyl ether.

The incident continues to be treated as an emergency response by the Department of Fish and Game. Transition to a long-term clean-up operation is expected to take place on May 3, 2001.

### **Suspected Spill into Dutch Bill Creek, Occidental**

[Staff contact: John Short]

On April 30, 2001, staff was notified about a possible ongoing sewer leak into surface waters. A consultant for Harmony School in the Occidental area observed a suspected release from a storm drainpipe. The report given to staff was that a sewer main is apparently leaking into the storm drain, which discharges to Dutch Bill Creek, adjacent to the school. The consultant took a picture of the leak and detected a strong odor of sewage in the area. Staff investigated the report with SCWA and the Department of Health Services (DHS).



SCWA sampled storm drain and creek for wastewater constituents. DHS posted warning signs along the creek and staff is awaiting sampling results to confirm the initial report. Landowners downstream of the release will be notified if the spill is confirmed.

## CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 401 CERTIFICATIONS

There were six Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certifications and one Denial without Prejudice issued during the month of April.

Information regarding all proposed certifications is available at our Internet web site at:

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb1/notice404.html>

## UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLEANUP FUND PROGRAM

During the month of April, there were three Letters of Commitment issued in Region 1. From February 2001 through April 2001, there has been a total of \$193,000 in funds issued to tank owners in Region 1 from the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund.

## OUTREACH ACTIVITIES/ WORKSHOPS

On April 3, 2001, staff attended a presentation by David Schwartzel of Trojan Technologies. He gave an overview of current ultraviolet disinfection technology and explained the recently released NWRI Ultraviolet Disinfection Guidelines for Drinking Water and Wastewater Reclamation (2000). Discussion topics included potential UV applications for municipal wastewater treatment systems with design flows less than 2 MGD and recent O&M experiences of the Trojan Technologies UV disinfection unit at the City of Santa Rosa Laguna Subregional Wastewater Treatment Facility. The presentation concluded with a discussion of emerging applications for UV technology.

On April 11, 2001, Dave Evans, Peter Otis, Scott Gergus, and Rebecca Van Asdian attended an Agency Partners meeting. Representatives from the Department of Fish and Game, National Marine

Fisheries Service, Soyotome Resource Conservation District, California Department of Forestry, Sonoma County Water Agency, and the Army Corps of Engineers were also in attendance.

The Agency Partners meeting is a quarterly meeting where agency staff involved in the Russian River have an opportunity to discuss current issues and what each agency is working on. The next Agency Partner's meeting will be on July 11, 2001, at the Regional Water Board offices.

On April 12, 2001, David Leland attended an initial outreach and coordination meeting of stakeholders in the Mattole watershed. The meeting was convened to introduce the North Coast Watershed Assessment Program and TMDL efforts that are ramping up in the Mattole.

On April 13, 2001, David Leland lectured on TMDLs to a Santa Rosa Junior College class on Forest Hydrology.

On April 13, 2001, Jonathan Warmerdam and ten Montgomery High School students hiked at Annadel State Park. During the hike they discussed various aspects of the natural environment including plants, fish, animals, and impacts caused by human activity. They also discussed new trail reconstruction that is designed to prevent sediment inputs into adjacent watercourses. The students are all from a Special Studies program that includes children with learning disabilities and language barriers.

On April 26, 2001, Rhonda Raymond, David Fowler, Jim Tischler, David Leland, Jamie Hart, and Brian Baccarini of the Regional Water Board staff attended an "Earth Day" event at Sonoma State University. Brian Baccarini organized staff's participation at the event and was a major participant in planning the event for the Sonoma State University. The goal of the event was to instill awareness in the student body of pressing local and statewide environmental issues as well as to expose students to agencies and organizations that deal with such issues.

To instill awareness, agencies like the Regional Water Board, the San Francisco Bay Area Air Quality District, Integrated Waste Management, and organizations such as the Sierra Club, Madrone Audubon Society, Friends of the Eel River, California River Watch, Bird Rescue and others attended the event. The agencies talked to students and provided information about their specific agency or organization and the environmental issues that they deal with.

At the Regional Water Board's display, students could talk to several staff members as well as review the display of the TMDL process on the Noyo River which was put together by David Leland. Information was also available about the Regional Water Board and the

issues it deals with including, storm water pollution, the 401 certification process, above ground storage tanks, the hydrologic cycle, and many other issues and items of interest. Calendars were available for visitors as well as information concerning employment with the state.

## PUBLIC FILE REVIEW

From April 1 through May 1, two written requests were made for review of the Regional Water Board's records. These files were made available pursuant to the California Public Records Act. In addition, a total of 74 people came into the office and requested file review.

## PROMOTIONS/STAFF HIRING

New hires during the month of April include Richard Fadness, Land and Water Use Analyst; Reg Cullen, Water Resource Control Engineer; and Julie Sayre, Office Assistant.

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our web-site at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov>.